

### Attitudes and Interactions

who faithfully exhibited all the characteristics of Columbus, as described by those personally knew him. This seems, therefore, a fitting place in which to transcribe the description of the Admiral as given by the *Historie* of Las Casas, and Ferdinand Columbus. However it was that this compiled the *Historie* published under his name. It will be observed only one of the four asserts that Columbus was a beard at any period of his life. The *Historie* says the Admiral was "a man of great stature, of a high and big body, and of a pleasant countenance, and of a good appearance." Oviado speaks of him as being "of good stature and aspect, tall rather than of medium size, of vigorous build, with brilliant eyes and well proportioned as to the rest of his face, very red hair, and with a face somewhat ruddy and freckled; gracious, when he was young, but afterwards, when with his passions were roused." Las Casas describes him as follows: "As to his complexion, and the general proportions, he was tall rather than of medium size; the face long and commanding; his hair, light eyes, complexion fair, and his hair to a deep red. The beard and hair when he was young were black, but very soon turned white on account of his many labors." In his person and venerable aspect, he presented the appearance of one of high position and authority and worthy of all rever-

IV.

We come finally to the Lotto portrait, which supposed to have been painted for a Venetian Senator at the instance of the Venetian Ambassador to Spain, who, in 1501, is said to have been in intimate communication with Columbus at Granada. This undoubtedly a beautiful picture. In the head of Columbus is uncovered, the hair is light and falls almost to the shoulder. It is parted in the middle and the face is clean shaven. The Admiral is dressed in the garb of a discoverer which have any claim to authenticity. The Admiral is clothed in a lock-necked white shirt without collar, with a red sash or coat, which is almost concealed by a simple mantle with fur lapels somewhat like those exhibited in the Yanez portrait before mentioned. The Admiral's hands are not removed. In the right hand he holds a card, copied from that by De Burych, and in the left an hour glass, which stands upon a small labelled Aristotle. The map itself is an unwise proof that the picture was not taken in life, as it was first published in 1508, two years after the death of Columbus, and in ten years subsequent to 1505, or 1506, when the portrait is alleged to have been made. The attempt of Mr. J. C. Van

the next thirty years later. At the Diet of Lublin in 1569, the Polish and Lithuanian Commonwealth was effected. In 1651 occurred the first outbreak of the Liberum-Veto, which was to prove ruinous to the State. Four years later broke out the war with Sweden, in the course of which the Swedish King took Warsaw and made it his capital. Two years afterward the electors of the nobles elected as Duke John Casimir, the last of the Jagellons. To the latter years of the seventeenth century belongs the reign of John Sobieski, famous for his rescue of Vienna, but whose conduct in peace was by no means commensurate with his prowess in war. In 1720 Poland was placed under the union of the Russian, Prussian, and Latin churches, and in 1772 occurred the first partition of Poland and her empire was completely. The dates 1793 and 1795 mark the second and third partitions, after which the only notable incidents are the crowning of the Duchy of Warsaw, and the partition of Poland to Prussia, Austria, and Russia. The Polish insurrection in 1830 and 1863. During the last thirty years of our national history, the Poles more than once mistook the quarter from which danger was to be feared. Their deadly enemies were not the Swedes on the north, the Turks on the south, nor the sometimes cruel and often treacherous Germans to the west and the Russians on the east.

turned the churches to be reopened, would not recognize the assumption of the title of "Christian ruler, ruler of Christians." Accordingly, a duke, who did not until 1295 take Poland reconstituted Poland as a kingdom without troubling himself to secure the permission of the Pope. About 1312 Cracow became the capital and the centre of the national life. The early part of the fourteenth century witnessed the rise of a powerful principality, which subsequently to be incorporated with Poland. In 1333 began the reign of Casimir III., to whom his countrymen gave the appellation of the Great, and also that of the Peasants' King. Under his rule the material prosperity of the country was augmented, commerce was developed, and the Polish and Silesian branches of the Hanseatic League. We also begin to hear of Warsaw, which was destined ultimately to become the capital. The father of Casimir had convoked his first known Diet; it consisted of princes, nobles, barons, and knights. Casimir himself took time to found a university at Cracow, but the time of his success and of his long-remembered Polish youth repaired to education to the University of Prague. It was reserved for Queen Jadwiga and her husband, Ladislaus, to carry out the plans of Casimir. We should mention that in 1240 the

With the death of Alexander we emerge from the medieval period, and it is worth while to note how Poland stood toward the Reformation, the growth of the burgher class, and other changes of the sixteenth century. Beginning with the modern epoch we find her growing into an oligarchy of nobles who are continually encroaching upon the power of the Crown. There is no national middle class: the burghers are Germans or Jews or Catholics; the peasants are Poles. The nobles are Catholics and are bound to the soil, with no power of resisting the tyranny or caprice of their masters. No national literature has as yet been developed: such authors as Mickiewicz and Słowacki were born and wrote in Latin. In the reign of Sigismund Augustus (1572-1596), Poland derived a certain lustre from the astronomer Copernicus, who was a native of Thorn. The doctrines of the Reformation soon made their appearance in Poland, but they were not successful. The most powerful faction which had adopted Lutheranism, in 1524, his nephew, Albert, the Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights and ruler of eastern Prussia, accepted the Lutheran faith, and the Reformation was

The malefactor's name, and possibly one should say the greatest name, in Polish history is that of John Sobieski, who reigned as king of Poland from 1674 to 1698. He was born in 1629, the second son of the Casellan of Cracow. It was therefore not a matter of course that he should be elected king in 1674 that caused him to be chosen by the Diet held at Waraw in the following year. Two years later he was obliged to go to encounter a second invasion of the Turks in conjunction with the Cossacks and, although his army of 15,000 men was defeated, he was able to conclude a treaty by which part of the Ukraine and Podolia were recovered. For the moment, indeed, the Turks were disposed to leave Poland alone, but in 1698 they renewed the great invasion of Austria, whose prize was the city of Vienna. The famous siege has often been described. We will only mention that it lasted from July 14, 1693, to September 12 of the same year, when the Turks, having arrived at the city, were repulsed by the army of Sobieski in a desperate battle. It is to be noted that Sobieski had very little predilection for Austria, and that his rescue of Vienna was due

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